

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: OUTLINE OF ALLIED PROPOSALS -- POSITION OF
STABILIZING MEASURES

1. AS WASHINGTON AGENCIES AWARE, NATO COUNCIL AT
GERMAN INITIATIVE HAS DECIDED THAT STABILIZING
MEASURES SHOULD APPEAR IN FIRST POSITION IN NATO
OUTLINE PROPOSAL SCHEDULED TO BE TABLED ON NOVEMBER 22.
THIS DECISION REFLECTED THE STATE OF NATO
DISCUSSION ON CONSTRAINTS AND WAS NOT BASED
ON PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE FORM AND SEQUENCE PROPOSED
BY AD HOC GROUP TO NAC IN OUTLINE OF PROPOSALS.
AS STATED IN ITS MESSAGE TO COUNCIL, THE AD HOC
GROUP WOULD PREFER TO HAVE ASSOCIATED MEASURES LISTED
IN THEIR PRESENT POSITION IN PARAGRAPH 9 OF THE ALLIED
OUTLINE OF PROPOSALS. HOWEVER, WE WOULD WISH TO
AVOID SITUATION IN WHICH THIS ISSUE WAS SOLE CAUSE
OF BLOCKING RAPID NATO AGREEMENT TO TABLE THE
OUTLINE ON NOVEMBER 22. WE SUGGEST THAT IF THE
ISSUE BECOMES A MAJOR ONE, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH
TO AUTHORIZE USNATO TO MOVE PARAGRAPHS 8 AND 9 OF
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THE PROPOSED OUTLINE TEXT TO A POSITION WHERE THEY

WOULD FOLLOW PARAGRAPH 3 ON THE COMMON CEILING. THE REASONING UNDERLYING THIS RECOMMENDATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE PRESENT OVERALL SEQUENCE OF THE AD HOC GROUP PAPER SHOULD BE RETAINED;

B. IT IS ASSUMED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE ILLOGICAL TO PLACE DISCUSSION OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES BEFORE DISCUSSION OF AREA OR BEFORE DISCUSSION OF FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES. PLACING DISCUSSION OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES BEFORE DISCUSSION OF GROUND FORCES COULD CREATE OPENING FOR EAST TO INSIST ON INCLUDING AIR FORCES IN REDUCTIONS.

C. REGARDLESS OF WHAT SEQUENCE OF NEGOTIATION THE ALLIES DECIDE ON, IT WOULD BE ILLOGICAL TO MENTION "ASSOCIATED MEASURES" IN THE ALLIED OUTLINE BEFORE SOME REDUCTION PROPOSAL HAD BEEN MADE IN THE ALLIED PAPER.

D. THE FIRST SUCH PROPOSAL IS MADE IN PARAGRAPH 3 ON THE COMMON CEILING. HENCE THE MATERIAL IN PARAGRAPH 8 AND 9 COULD BE INSERTED AFTER PARAGRAPH 3.

E. WE ASSUME THAT FOR INTERNAL ALLIANCE REASONS, FLANK ITEM NUMBER 8 WILL HAVE TO PRECEDE MENTION OF REDUCTIONS.

F. WE WOULD PREFER, EVEN IN EVENT THAT ITEM ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES HAS TO BE MOVED UP IN PAPER, NOT TO BREAK OUT STABILIZING MEASURES AS SEPARATE ITEM.

G. WESTERN PARTICIPANTS MADE CLEAR TO EAST IN PREPARATORY TALKS THAT UNDER THE TERM ASSOCIATED MEASURES, WEST INTENDED TO DISCUSS STABILIZING MEASURES, VERIFICATION AND NON-CIRCUMVENTION. EAST AGREED TO THIS TERM ON BASIS OF ITS UNDERSTANDING OF WESTERN POSITION. EAST DID NOT AGREE IN PREPARATORY TALKS THAT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD FOCUS ON STABILIZING MEASURES AS A SEPARATE CONCEPT IN

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ITSELF, DISTINCT FROM ASSOCIATED MEASURES. ALLIES HAVE RIGHT TO RAISE ANY SUBJECT THEY WISH AND CAN DO SO WITH REGARD TO STABILIZING MEASURES. BUT TO SPLIT OFF STABILIZING MEASURES AND MAKE IT SEPARATE TOPIC WOULD DEPRIVE WEST OF WHATEVER TACTICAL VALUE THERE MAY BE IN ARGUING THAT EAST IN AGREEING TO COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON "ASSOCIATED MEASURES" DID SO IN KNOWLEDGE AND AGREEMENT THAT IN PRINCIPLE

THERE SHOULD BE STABILIZING MEASURES.

2. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO SUGGEST USNATO FOLLOW
APPROACH ABOVE IF ISSUE OF PRESENTING STABILIZING
MEASURES BECOMES MAJOR HINDRANCE IN NAC CONSIDERA-
TION OF ALLIED OUTLINE.HUMES

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